Charmed

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This article is about the 1998 television series. For the 2018 reboot series, see Charmed (2018 TV series). For other uses, see Charmed (disambiguation).

Charmed is an American fantasy drama television series created by Constance M. Burge and produced by Aaron Spelling and his production company Spelling Television, with Brad Kern serving as showrunner.

Charmed	
Genre	Family drama Fantasy Supernatural fiction
Created by	Constance M. Burge
Showrunner	Brad Kern
Starring	Shannen Doherty Holly Marie Combs Alyssa Milano Rose McGowan Ted W. King Dorian Gregory Greg Vaughan Karis Paige Bryant Brian Krause Julian McMahon Drew Fuller Kaley Cuoco
Theme music composer	Johnny Marr Morrissey
Opening theme	"How Soon Is Now?" performed by Love Spit Love
Composers	Tim Truman (season 1) Jay Gruska J. Peter Robinson (seasons 2–8)
Country of origin	United States
Original language	English
No. of seasons	8
No. of episodes	178 (list of episodes)
Production	
Executive producers	Constance M. Burge Brad Kern Aaron Spelling E. Duke Vincent
Producers	Sheryl J. Anderson Jon Paré
Camera setup	Panavision, Single-camera
Running time	40–45 minutes
Production company	Spelling Television
Original release	
Network	The WB
Release	October 7, 1998 – May 21, 2006
Related	
Charmed (2018–2022)	

The series was originally broadcast by The WB from October 7, 1998, until May 21, 2006. The series narrative follows a trio of sisters, known as The Charmed Ones, the most powerful good witches of all time, who use their combined "Power of Three" to protect innocent lives from evil beings such as demons and warlocks. Each sister possesses unique magical powers that grow and evolve, while they attempt to maintain normal lives in modern-day San Francisco. Keeping their supernatural identities separate and secret from their ordinary lives often becomes a challenge for them, with the exposure of magic having far-reaching consequences on their various relationships and resulting in a number of police and FBI investigations throughout the series. The series initially focuses on the three Halliwell sisters, Prue (Shannen Doherty), Piper (Holly Marie Combs), and Phoebe (Alyssa Milano).

Charmed achieved a cult following[1][2] and popularity on The WB with its first episode "Something Wicca This Way Comes" garnering 7.7 million viewers, breaking the record for the network's highest-rated debut episode.[3] The show's ratings, although smaller than rival shows on the "big four" networks (ABC, CBS, NBC, and Fox), were a success for the relatively new and smaller WB network. *Charmed* went through several timeslot changes during its eight-season run. During its fifth season, the show moved to the Sunday 8:00 pm timeslot, where it became the highest-rated Sunday night program in The WB's history.[4][5] At 178 episodes, *Charmed* was the second-longest drama broadcast by The WB, behind *7th Heaven*. In 2006, it became the longest-running, hour-long television series featuring all-female leads before being surpassed by *Desperate Housewives* in 2012.[6]

The series has also received numerous awards and nominations. In 2010, *The Huffington Post* and AOL TV ranked *Charmed* within their joint list of "The Top 20 Magic/Supernatural Shows of All Time," while in 2013, *TV Guide* listed the series as one of "The 60 Greatest Sci-Fi Shows of All Time". *Charmed* has also become a source of pop culture references in film and television and has influenced other succeeding television series in the same subgenre. The show's success has led to its development in other media, including a video game, board games, soundtracks, novels, and a comic book series which served as a continuation of its narrative. According to data research from The NPD Group in 2012, *Charmed* was the second-most binge-watched television series on subscription video-on-demand services, such as Netflix. A reboot series of *Charmed*, featuring different cast members and characters, premiered on The CW on October 14, 2018.[7]

Series overview [edit]

The series starts in 1998 when Phoebe Halliwell (Alyssa Milano) returns from New York and moves back into the family's Halliwell Manor in San Francisco to live with her sisters Prue (Shannen Doherty) and Piper (Holly Marie Combs). When Phoebe discovers the family's *Book of Shadows* in the attic, she learns that she and her sisters are the most powerful witches ever known, destined to protect both innocents and the world at large from demons, warlocks, and other evil creatures. Phoebe, reasonably suspecting the book to be a novelty, reads its initial inscription—unaware that it also happens to be an incantation activating the sisters' supernatural powers once all three are reunited in their ancestral home.

> Before Melinda was burned at the stake, she vowed that each generation of Warren witches would become stronger and stronger, culminating in the arrival of three sisters ... the most powerful witches the world has ever known ... the Charmed Ones.
>
> —Phoebe Halliwell (Alyssa Milano) in "Something Wicca This Way Comes"

The Victorian building filmed as the Halliwell Manor is located at Carroll Avenue in Los Angeles, California. In the series, the fictional manor is set in San Francisco.

By the end of the first episode, each sister learns that she has a unique magical power that allows her to cast spells and brew potions. Prue, the eldest, has the power of telekinesis (the ability to move objects with her mind), and in season two she develops the power of astral projection (the ability to be in two places at once). Piper, the middle sister, has the power of molecular immobilization. As she grows more proficient, she learns how to freeze only certain people or objects or body parts, as she wishes. In season three, her powers evolve further, as she is able to cause evil beings or objects to explode using her hands as a development of her powers surrounding molecular movement. Phoebe, the youngest of the three, initially possesses the power of premonition allowing her to receive visions of the future and later of the past. She later develops the powers of levitation in season three, and empathy in season six, the latter allowing her to sense and tap into others' emotions and, sometimes, powers. In accordance with the series' mythology, witches' powers are tied to their emotions.

During the first two seasons, the sisters face various evil beings from week to week. However, in the third season, they discover that their ultimate enemy is The Underworld's demonic ruler, The Source of All Evil. Eventually, Prue is killed in the season three finale by The Source's personal assassin, Shax (Michael Bailey Smith). While grieving for their older sister, Piper and Phoebe discover that they also have a younger half-sister, Paige Matthews (Rose McGowan), who had been the secret love child of their witch mother, Patty (Finola Hughes), and her "whitelighter" (guardian angel) Sam Wilder (Scott Jaeck). Paige's magical abilities represent her dual heritage as both a witch and whitelighter; like Prue, she possesses a form of telekinesis, but she has to verbally call for objects to "orb" (teleport) them to their intended destination. As she attempts to control the two sides of her ancestry, Paige also learns how to orb herself and others, and to heal others with the touch of her hand; she eventually receives her own whitelighter charges to train and protect as they learn witchcraft. Paige can also "glamour", shapeshifting into a different human appearance.

The Source, responsible for the majority of attacks on the sisters, becomes the main villain during season four until he is finally vanquished. After his demise, an annual season-long storyline and several antagonists are introduced in subsequent seasons (occasionally following the "Big Bad" television format). These include Phoebe's demonic ex-husband, Cole Turner (Julian McMahon), until mid-season five; the scheming, misguided Elder, Gideon (Gildart Jackson), throughout season six; The Avatars until mid-season seven; the demon Zankou (Oded Fehr) until the season seven finale; and, in season eight, powerful sister witches Billie (Kaley Cuoco) and Christy Jenkins (Marnette Patterson), who fall under the influence of the demonic Triad (who earlier feature as an early-season three antagonist). In addition to the supernatural themes explored in *Charmed*, the characters contend with serious issues in their day-to-day lives such as relationships, careers, marriage, childbirth, illness and the deaths of loved ones. The sisters also fight to prevent the exposure of the existence of magic to the human community at large, contending with several police, FBI, and Homeland Security investigations. Often through the assistance of their long-term ally, Darryl Morris (Dorian Gregory) of the San Francisco Police Department, they are able to avoid police suspicion, including the investigation of the most-recurring human antagonist, Inspector Sheridan (Jenya Lano), in the sixth and seventh seasons.

The sisters also face romantic storylines. Prue's love interests include her high school sweetheart, Inspector Andy Trudeau (Ted King), who dies in the season one finale in an attempt to save the sisters, and a brief co-worker, Jack Sheridan (Lochlyn Munro), in season two. Piper's central love interest throughout the series is the sisters' whitelighter Leo Wyatt (Brian Krause); their early relationship is problematic due to the forbidden nature of witch-whitelighter relationships, and so in season two a love triangle forms with Piper, Leo and her neighbor, Dan Gordon (Greg Vaughan). Eventually, the two manage to marry and consummate their union in season three, producing a son named Wyatt in season five. The couple separate due to supernatural circumstances at the end of the fifth season; however, they reconnect in the subsequent season, resulting in a second son named Chris. The final episode of *Charmed* shows them to have a daughter, many grandchildren, and to grow old together in the future. Phoebe's romantic history involves a tortured relationship with half-demon, half-human Cole Turner in the show's third, fourth and fifth seasons; they have a turbulent marriage in the fourth, and in the fifth, following their divorce, she is compelled to vanquish him. Phoebe has a number of multi-episode human boyfriends in subsequent seasons, including her boss, Jason Dean (Eric Dane), before meeting a cupid named Coop (Victor Webster) in the eighth season, whom she marries. Paige, like Phoebe, has several multi-episode boyfriends, including fellow-witch and magic "addict" Richard Montana (Balthazar Getty) in season six, and an unstable FBI agent-turned-whitelighter Kyle Brody (Kerr Smith) in season seven. In the eighth season, she becomes committed to a human parole officer, Henry Mitchell (Ivan Sergei), whom she marries. The final episode's flashforward montage reveals Piper, Phoebe, and Paige to have three children each with their respective husbands.

Cast and characters [edit]

Main article: List of Charmed characters

Main [edit]

Shannen Doherty (top left) portrayed Prue Halliwell, Holly Marie Combs (top right) portrayed Piper Halliwell, Alyssa Milano (bottom left) portrayed Phoebe Halliwell, and Rose McGowan (bottom right) portrayed Paige Matthews.

- Shannen Doherty as Prue Halliwell (seasons 1–3), the eldest sister who initially receives the power to move objects with her mind by channelling telekinesis through her eyes. As the series progresses, Prue learns how to channel her telekinetic powers through her hands and gains the power of astral projection, the ability to be in two places at once. The evolution of her powers was explained by the theory that her ability to move objects with her mind evolved into the ability to move or transfer her own consciousness and astral body to other places. Prue also develops martial arts skills and becomes an effective hand-to-hand fighter. During her three seasons on *Charmed*, she is regarded as the strongest and most powerful witch of the Halliwell sisters. Prue initially works as an appraiser for an auction house, and later becomes a professional photographer for a magazine company.
- Holly Marie Combs as Piper Halliwell, the second-eldest sister who initially receives the power to freeze demons, people, and objects; and eventually her surrounding environment. As the series progresses, she also gains the power to cause evil beings or objects to spontaneously explode, with the explanation behind this being her power to freeze comes from an ability to slow down particles, and with combustion, the ability to rapidly speed them up. Piper is initially the middle sister of the family during the first three seasons, but later becomes the eldest sister after Prue dies. Piper's central love-interest throughout the series is Leo Wyatt (Brian Krause), the sisters' whitelighter – a guardian angel for good witches. In season three, she marries Leo, and as the series progresses, they have two children; Wyatt (born in season five) and Chris (born in season six). Piper initially works as a chef and manager for the restaurant Quake, but in season two she opens a nightclub called P3; in which Prue (before her death) and Phoebe become part-owners. In a comic series, modelled after the show, she eventually opens a restaurant called Halliwell.
- Alyssa Milano as Phoebe Halliwell, the third-eldest sister who initially receives the power of premonition, the ability to see into the future and the past. To make up for initially only having a passive power, Phoebe develops martial-arts skills in order to better support her sisters when they fight evil. As the series progresses, she also gains the active powers of levitation and empathy. Phoebe is introduced into *Charmed* as the youngest and most rebellious of the Halliwell sisters. However, her progression as a witch helps her become more responsible and grow as a person. Phoebe later becomes the middle sister after Prue dies and the series introduces their younger half-sister; Paige (Rose McGowan). Phoebe was initially a college student for the first few seasons, and later becomes an advice columnist for the newspaper *The Bay Mirror*.
- Rose McGowan as Paige Matthews (seasons 4–8), the youngest sister, who initially receives the power to move objects with her mind by orbing ("teleporting") objects from one location to another through a vocal command. She was the secret love-child of the Halliwell sisters' mother Patty (Finola Hughes) and her whitelighter Sam Wilder (Scott Jaeck), making Paige both a witch and a whitelighter. She was given up at birth and raised by her adoptive parents. Paige is introduced at the beginning of season four, where she goes on to help reconstitute The Charmed Ones by taking Prue's place in the "Power of Three". As the series progresses, Paige also receives the whitelighter powers of orbing herself and others; as well as sensing, glamouring, and healing.

Supporting [edit]

- T. W. King as Andy Trudeau (season 1), introduced as the Halliwell sisters' childhood friend and Prue's high school sweetheart and first love. He works as an inspector for the San Francisco Police Department and is coincidentally assigned to almost every police case that involves the sisters. Andy eventually discovers that they are witches and serves as the sisters' initial connection to the police force. In the season one finale, Andy is killed by the demon Rodriguez (Carlos Gomez), who also happens to be one of the Internal Affairs officers investigating Andy's unsolved cases.
- Dorian Gregory as Darryl Morris (seasons 1–7), a lieutenant in the San Francisco Police Department. Darryl is introduced into season one as Andy Trudeau's (Ted King) best friend and partner. At first, Darryl is suspicious of the Halliwell sisters' recurring connection to mysterious murders and crimes. However, in season two, the sisters reveal to him that they are good witches trying to bring justice and protection to the world. Throughout the series, Darryl helps the sisters cover up unsolved cases related to demonic activity, as well as granting them favors and giving them general support. His family also become close to the sisters and consider them part of their family. At the end of season seven, Darryl and his family move to the East Coast.
- Brian Krause as Leo Wyatt (seasons 2–8; recurring season 1), the Halliwell sisters' whitelighter—a guardian angel for good witches—who has the powers to orb, heal, sense, levitate, glamour and hover. Leo is introduced into season one as the sisters' handyman hired to fix up their house, but they later discover that he is their whitelighter. Leo and Piper become romantically involved, eventually marrying and having children, but Leo's whitelighter duties often cause problems for his marriage to Piper and their family. Their relationship is the first of many conflicts between the sisters and The Elders.
- Greg Vaughan as Dan Gordon (season 2), introduced as the Halliwell sisters' new next-door neighbor. Dan and Piper become romantically involved after Piper and Leo (Brian Krause) break up due to the strenuous nature his whitelighter duties place on their relationship. Piper later breaks up with Dan and reconciles with Leo. At the end of season two, Dan moves to Portland to take a job offer.
- Karis Paige Bryant as Jenny Gordon (season 2), introduced as Dan Gordon's (Greg Vaughan) niece who temporarily moves in with him for school because her parents are in Saudi Arabia on business. Whilst living with her uncle, Jenny forms a bond with the Halliwell sisters and often turns to them for advice on female issues that she is not comfortable talking to her uncle about. Midway through season two, Jenny moves back in with her parents after they return to the United States.
- Julian McMahon as Cole Turner / Belthazor (seasons 3–5; guest season 7), a half-human and half-demon who has the powers to teleport and throw projective energy balls which could stun or kill. Cole is introduced into season three as an Assistant District Attorney sent by The Triad to kill The Charmed Ones, but instead he falls in love with Phoebe. Although

Cole completely rids himself of his demonic nature and marries Phoebe in season four, he later returns to evil after he unwillingly becomes the new Source of All Evil. As The Source, Cole is eventually vanquished by The Charmed Ones, only to come back from death in his attempts to win Phoebe back. Driven insane, Cole is, through his own doing, once again killed by the sisters in season five. He later returns for a guest appearance in the season seven episode "The Seven Year Witch", where it is revealed his spirit is trapped between realms.

- Drew Fuller as Chris Halliwell (season 6; guest seasons 5, 7 & 8), the second-eldest son of Leo and Piper. Chris is introduced into the season five finale as a whitelighter from the future who helps assist the Halliwell sisters against magical beings known as The Titans. In season six, Chris reveals that he is Leo and Piper's son and has traveled back in time to prevent his older brother Wyatt from growing up to be the evil dictator he becomes in the future. In the season six finale, adult Chris is killed by an Elder named Gideon (Gildart Jackson) and baby Chris is born.
- Kaley Cuoco as Billie Jenkins (season 8), introduced as a young college student and a new charge for Paige (Rose McGowan). Billie has the power to move objects with her mind using telekinesis, and later develops the power of projection; the ability to warp reality. She spends most of season eight trying to find her eldest sister Christy (Marnette Patterson), who was kidnapped 15 years earlier by The Triad. Billie is eventually reunited with her sister, but does not know that Christy has been turned evil under the influence of demons. After Christy briefly sways her to betray the Charmed Ones, Billie eventually sides with them in the series finale and is forced to kill her sister in self-defense.

Production [edit]

Development [edit]

In 1998, when The WB began looking for a new drama series for the 1998–99 season, they approached Spelling Television (which had produced the network's then-most successful series, *7th Heaven*) to create it. Expanding on the popularity of witch-themed dramas such as *The Craft* (1996)[8][9] and *Practical Magic* (1998),[10] the production company explored different forms of mythology to find characters they could realize with contemporary storytelling.[11]

Constance M. Burge was hired to create the series as she was under contract with 20th Century Fox and Spelling Television after conceiving the drama series *Savannah* (1996–97).[11] When the theme of witchcraft was first pitched to her, she was aware of stereotypes of witches (flying brooms, black cats, and warts). After researching Wicca, she changed her perspective[12] and aimed at telling a story of good witches who looked and acted like ordinary people. With this, her initial concept was a series set in Boston, Massachusetts,[12] about three friends and roommates who were all witches.[11] However, executive producer E. Duke Vincent balked, asking "Why would anybody want to watch a show about three witches?" He proposed that the series should focus on family values and developed the series-long mantra of it being about "three sisters who happen to be witches, not three witches who happen to be sisters." Spelling warmed to Burge's ideas and, after the concept was re-crafted to be a series about three sisters (now living in San Francisco) descended from a line of witches,[12] it was pitched to The WB's President of Entertainment, Susanne Daniels, who liked it, allowing the series to begin development.[11]

The series was retitled *Charmed* after Spelling's suggestion of *House of Sisters* was dropped. Burge wrote the pilot script and a 28-minute version of the pilot was filmed, which was never aired on network television. After original cast member Lori Rom quit the series before its premiere, Alyssa Milano took over her role and a new pilot had to be filmed. Upon its debut, *Charmed* received the largest audience for a series premiere in The WB's history.[3] The first season of 22 episodes was picked up by The WB after only two episodes had aired.

Casting [edit]

Former *Beverly Hills, 90210* actress Shannen Doherty was cast as the eldest sister Prue Halliwell, while her best friend at the time and former *Picket Fences* actress Holly Marie Combs played the role of the middle sister Piper Halliwell.[13] Lori Rom was originally cast as the youngest sister Phoebe Halliwell in the 28-minute unaired pilot episode.[13] However, Rom quit the series, and a new pilot was filmed with former *Who's the Boss?* actress Alyssa Milano in the role of Phoebe.[13] Doherty departed *Charmed* at the end of the third season. Jennifer Love Hewitt and Tiffani Thiessen were both considered as replacements.[14] The part ultimately went to film actress Rose McGowan, who played the long-lost younger half-sister Paige Matthews in the fourth season.[15]

In season one, Ted King was cast as the inspector Andy Trudeau, Dorian Gregory was cast as his inspector partner Darryl Morris, and Brian Krause was cast as the Halliwell sisters' whitelighter Leo Wyatt.[13] King departed *Charmed* at the end of the first season, while Gregory remained on the show until the seventh season. In season two, Greg Vaughan joined the series as the Halliwell sisters' new next-door neighbor Dan Gordon, while Karis Paige Bryant was cast as his niece Jenny Gordon. Bryant left her role midway through the second season, while Vaughan left at the end of the season. Australian actor Julian McMahon joined the cast of *Charmed* in season three as the half-demon Cole Turner. He departed the show midway through season five. Drew Fuller joined *Charmed* at the end of the fifth season as Piper and Leo's second son from the future, Chris Halliwell. Fuller left his role at the end of season six, but returned for guest appearances in later seasons. In the eighth and final season, Kaley Cuoco joined the show as the young witch Billie Jenkins.

Production and writing [edit]

Aaron Spelling and E. Duke Vincent maintained their positions as executive producers of the series until it ended. Constance M. Burge became an executive producer when she was hired to create the series and write the pilot script. After the 28-minute "unaired pilot" was shown to The WB and the series was picked up by the network, Brad Kern was recruited as the fourth executive producer and as the showrunner in order to decipher how the series would develop over the course of its run. Scripting was done by a large number of writers. Kern did the most writing, with a total of 26 episodes, as well as directing one of them. The writers with the most writing credits other than Kern include Daniel Cerone, Curtis Kheel, Zack Estrin, Chris Levinson, Krista Vernoff, Sheryl J. Anderson, Monica Owusu-Breen, Alison Schapker, Cameron Litvack, and Jeannine Renshaw.[16] Burge wrote seven episodes for the first and second seasons before leaving her position as executive producer. Scripting was carried out after group brainstorms took place, discussing the events of the episodes, the emotions of the characters, and the mythology involved. Robert Masello, an executive story editor for the series, credits himself as the only demonologist hired for a series, in order to add his experience to the storyline.[17]

> *Charmed* is the only show that has a licensed fully bonded demonologist, which is me, on staff and as a result because I've written books about demonology and the occult of witchcraft, I'm there to answer questions about how a demon would behave.

The book *Investigating Charmed: The Magic Power of TV* (2007) revealed that viewers of the Wiccan religion appreciated the accurate portrayal of some Wiccan elements, but were disappointed with the way the series tied the Wiccan religion with Christianity, through the concept of demons and angels (Whitelighters).[18] One Wiccan viewer noted that some of the evil demons in *Charmed* carry the names of benevolent gods and goddesses in the Wiccan religion.[18] However, many Wiccan viewers appreciated the fact that *Charmed* brought their religion into the public eye in a positive way, through the use of other elements such as sacred objects, spellcasting, a *Book of Shadows*, solstice celebrations and handfastings.[18] Cast member Holly Marie Combs revealed in *The Women of Charmed* documentary (2000) that the series aimed at following a mythology created by fantasy, and not adhering to Wiccan rules too closely, for fear of coming under criticism for either not being "technically correct enough" or missing the truth completely.[17]

Ahead of the third season, Burge left her former position as executive producer to Kern, after she reportedly became frustrated that storylines for the third season were going to become more focused on the sisters' relationships with their love interests than each other.[19] She had disagreements with Kern over bringing the character Cole Turner (Julian McMahon) into the show as a love interest for Alyssa Milano's character Phoebe, as there was already enough focus on the show's established couple Piper (Holly Marie Combs) and Leo Wyatt (Brian Krause).[20] However, Burge remained on *Charmed* as a creative consultant until season four.[21] Her departure resulted in changes in the story structure of the show, from a "demon of the week" system to using third or half-season-long story arcs. In addition, more importance was given to the protagonists' personal lives. The serial connection of episodes culminated in the second half of season four. Despite the ratings increasing during season four's final story arc from 4.19 to 4.21, The WB asked Kern to abandon the serial system. This led to the largely episodic structure of season five and resulted in the two systems being balanced from the sixth season onwards.

Filming locations [edit]

The first six seasons of *Charmed* were filmed at Ray Art Studios in Canoga Park, Los Angeles on four of the studio's sound stages.[22][23][24] After Ray-Arts Studio was sold in 2003,[22] production for *Charmed* moved to the Paramount Studios lot for seasons seven and eight.[25][26][27] The Innes House located at 1329 Carroll Avenue in Los Angeles was used as the exterior for the show's fictional Halliwell Manor, and has become popular with tourists over the years.[28][29][30][31]

Budget cuts [edit]

During the seventh season and for the first time in its history, the show had been in limbo as there was no guaranteed renewal for an eighth season.[32] *Charmed* was ultimately renewed for a final season, but the budget was cut considerably compared to previous seasons due to expensive special effects and props and highly-paid main cast.[18][33] Executive producer Brad Kern revealed that they had to cut back on special effects and guest stars, and that the entire season was shot only on the Paramount Studios lot as they could not go out on location anymore.[34] These budget cuts also led to cast member Dorian Gregory being written out of the final season and Brian Krause being written out of several episodes as a cost-saving measure.[18][33] Kern revealed that the show could not afford to have Krause in all 22 episodes of the final season, but he was brought back for the final two episodes to help bring closure to the storylines.[18][33][35]

Opening sequence [edit]

Charmed uses its opening sequence to introduce the main and supporting cast members in each season. It consists of scenes from various episodes and miscellaneous footage of the cast which was updated from season to season.[36][37] The opening begins with images of the Golden Gate Bridge and flashing shots of the triquetra symbol in a circle.[38] The show's title card then appears, featuring the triquetra symbol and *Book of Shadows*.[38] After the title card in the opening of seasons 1 to 3, scenes from the pilot episode are shown, including an overhead view of the sisters casting a spell at a round table and a shot of them coming downstairs.[38] A scene of the sisters reciting a spell is then shown with the word "Starring".[38] This is followed by clips of each main and supporting cast member, though the supporting cast is omitted from the first five episodes, in which Milano was the last to be billed.[38] The last few scenes in the opening show the sisters' cat, a San Francisco cable car, and lastly the sisters walking upstairs into their home, with Doherty's character closing the door using her telekinetic powers.[38]

Following Doherty's departure at the end of season three, the season four opening credits had to be recreated to remove all footage of Doherty and to include her replacement, Rose McGowan.[36] The beginning of the opening remained the same.[36] However, after the title card is shown, new scenes are introduced which include images of the Golden Gate Bridge, a gargoyle, talisman, a scrying crystal, a tattoo of the triquetra symbol, and candles.[36] The order in which the lead actresses are credited was also changed to accommodate the changes to the main cast.[36] The last few scenes in the opening are also changed to include a cemetery, exterior shots of the Halliwell Manor, and pages in the *Book of Shadows*.[36] A five-second opening was used for the two-part premiere episodes of seasons four and five; it features flashing shots of the triquetra symbol and the show's title in large blue letters.[39][40]

The opening theme song used in the original television airings of all eight seasons was Love Spit Love's cover version of "How Soon Is Now?" by The Smiths.[41][20] This version of the song had previously appeared on the soundtrack of *The Craft*,[9] and is featured in the series' first soundtrack album. In the shortened five-second opening for the two-part premiere episodes of seasons four and five, the song was replaced by instrumental music.[39][40] "How Soon Is Now?" was also replaced by hard rock instrumental music in the season eight DVD because the license to use the song had expired.[20][42] This hard rock instrumental music was also used in the opening of all eight seasons on Netflix and later on Peacock.[43][44]

For its remaster, although most of the original shots for the opening credits were retained, some background images and flashing symbols were panned and scanned to fit the 16:9 aspect ratio.

Release [edit]

Main article: List of Charmed episodes

In the United States, *Charmed* premiered on The WB on October 7, 1998, and ended on May 21, 2006.[45][46] The first season aired on Wednesday nights at 9:00 pm.[45] For its second, third and fourth seasons, *Charmed* moved to Thursday nights.[47][48][49] For the fifth season, the series moved to Sunday nights at 8:00 pm and remained there until its eighth and final season.[46][50] By the end of season eight, *Charmed* had aired a total of 178 episodes and became the longest running hour-long television series in American history, featuring all female leads.[6] Most seasons consisted of 22 episodes, except for the fifth and sixth seasons, which contained 23 episodes, including their double-episode premieres and double-episode finales.

TNT and E! currently air reruns of *Charmed* during early weekday mornings.[51] Full episodes of *Charmed* are also available for viewing on TNT's official website.[52] Start TV began airing the series on January 3, 2026, with select episodes airing using the remastered version from Paramount Global themselves.[53] WE tv had previously aired reruns during weeknights in 2010.[54] The series was first released onto the subscription video-on-demand service Netflix in July 2011.[55] According to data research from The NPD Group, *Charmed* was the second-most binge-watched television series on subscription video-on-demand services such as Netflix in 2012.[56][57]

As of 2026, the entire remastered series is available on The Roku Channel and Paramount+.

Ratings [edit]

Charmed's first episode "Something Wicca This Way Comes" broke the record for the highest-rated debut episode for The WB, with 7.72 million viewers.[3] The show's ratings, although smaller than rival shows on the "big four" networks (ABC, CBS, NBC, and Fox), were a success for the relatively new and smaller WB network. *Charmed*'s premiere in 1998 helped ratings rise for The WB, with *TV Guide*'s Mark Schwed noting that the network's viewing figures were way up than the previous year.[58] For its first three seasons, *Charmed* was the second-highest rated series on The WB, behind *7th Heaven*. [*citation needed*] During its fifth season, the series became the highest-rated Sunday night program in The WB's history.[4][5]

Season	Episodes	Timeslot (ET)	Premiered		Ended		TV season	Rank	Network Rank	Viewers (in millions)
			Date	Premiere Viewers (in millions)	Date	Finale Viewers (in millions)				
1	22	Wednesday 9:00 pm	October 7, 1998	7.72[59]	May 26, 1999	5.69[60]	1998–99	#118[*citation needed*]	#2[*citation needed*]	5.4[*citation needed*]
2	22	Thursday 9:00 pm	September 30, 1999	6.12[61]	May 18, 2000	5.01[62]	1999–2000	#120[*citation needed*]	#2[*citation needed*]	5.2[*citation needed*]
3	22		October 5, 2000	7.65[63]	May 17, 2001	6.28[64]	2000–01	#117[*citation needed*]	#2[*citation needed*]	4.9[65]
4	22		October 4, 2001	5.97[66]	May 16, 2002	5.22[67]	2001–02	#129[68]	#6[68]	4.2[68]
5	23	Sunday 8:00 pm	September 22, 2002	6.32[69]	May 11, 2003	4.90[70]	2002–03	#128[71]	#6[71]	4.5[71]
6	23		September 28, 2003	6.26[72]	May 16, 2004	4.75[73]	2003–04	#154[74]	#4[74]	4.3[74]
7	22		September 12, 2004	5.59[75]	May 22, 2005	3.44[76]	2004–05	#132[77]	#7[77]	3.5[77]
8	22		September 25, 2005	4.27[78]	May 21, 2006	4.49[79]	2005–06	#132[80]	#7[80]	3.5[80]

Reception [edit]

Critical reception [edit]

The earlier seasons of *Charmed* received mostly favorable reviews from television critics, with its first season scoring a Metacritic score of 61 out of 100.[81] During the first season, *Entertainment Weekly* writer Ken Tucker, speaking on the comparisons between *Charmed* and rival series, argued: "spike-heeled where *Buffy* is fleet-footed, *Charmed* is *Charlie's Angels* with a Ouija board."[82] As well as the show's action sequences—describing the Halliwells as "superheroes"—he noted that the series "plays up the stars' separate-but-equal charms" and admired both its "casting and pop-culture timing."[82] Vanessa Thorpe of *The Guardian* agreed with Alyssa Milano's description of *Charmed* as "perfect post-feminist girl-power," praising the balance between action and emotion as the "three sisterly sorceresses know mischief, but are accessibly feminine."[83] *Entertainment Weekly* critic Karyn L. Barr labelled *Charmed* a "crafty cult classic" and in her retrospective review of the first season, wrote that it "remains spellbinding thanks to its proper balance of quirky humor, *Buffy*-esque drama" and Shannen Doherty's character Prue.[2] Angelica Bastien of *Bustle* magazine commended the "strong female characters" and felt that the show resembled *Xena: Warrior Princess* more than *Buffy* due to its "mix of drama, wacky humor, intensely layered mythology, and feminism-lite vibe."[84]

During the third season, Michael Abernethy of *PopMatters* praised the "well-choreographed action sequences, respectable acting" and "believable" sisterly relationship between Milano, Doherty, and Holly Marie Combs.[85] Abernethy credited

Charmed as "more enjoyable than most shows in the good vs evil genre" largely due to the strength of the performers, and noted that despite the monster of the week format, "the writers tend to explore the sisterly dynamics to keep the show from growing redundant."[85] Christel Loar also from *PopMatters* agreed that "episodes go beyond the demon-of-the-week formula to tap into the relationships of the characters and their...flaws. *Charmed*...succeeded by combining sisterhood with the supernatural."[86] Loar also claimed that the Halliwells' struggle for normal lives, "stability, and a sense of self is one of the reasons *Charmed* strikes such a chord with its viewers."[86] *The A.V. Club*'s Kayla Kumari Upadhyaya described the fourth season as "one of the grimmest seasons of *Charmed*," following Doherty's departure and her character's death "informing the overall tone." Upadhyaya also praised the "smart decisions" the writers made of how they introduced a new sister into the series, calling the transition "*Charmed*'s greatest accomplishment" that "opened up whole new avenues for grounded, emotional storytelling."[87] During the sixth season, Gillian Flynn of *Entertainment Weekly* described *Charmed* as "a guilty-pleasure fantasy" that is "inherently cute and incredibly simple."[88] Flynn also praised the comedic acting between Milano, Combs and Rose McGowan, adding that "selling this kind of comedy takes a certain gameness, and the actresses have got it."[88]

The later seasons of *Charmed* also received a mixed reception from some critics. *Bustle*'s Bastien felt that after Doherty's departure, "*Charmed* got pretty bad," noting that the show "lost track of its core theme" of witchcraft and sisterhood by bringing in mystical fairy tale beings and focusing more on soap opera-type plots and the sisters' love lives.[84] Similarly, BuzzFeed writer Jarett Wieselman agreed that "After Doherty's exit, *Charmed* veered into slightly-absurd-yet-no-less-entertaining territory," noting that McGowan's addition "ushered in a wave of increasingly campy episodes."[89] *The A.V. Club*'s Upadhyaya felt that the latter seasons "got too complicated" and campy by focusing too much on the magic "and not enough about the themes that grounded the show earlier on."[87] Becca James also from *The A.V. Club* felt that the show "should have died the same time" Doherty's character did.[90] Hugh Armitage of Digital Spy believed that *Charmed* "began to feel very self-indulgent towards its stars" in the later seasons, noting that character-driven storylines were replaced with gimmicks, such as the revealing outfits worn by the sisters, particularly both Milano's and McGowan's characters.[89][91] *Heart of Glass* magazine's Kristina Adams felt that, after creator Constance M. Burge's departure from the show, executive producer Brad Kern "ruined it" by focusing more on the magic and making a "cliché" magical world with the introduction of nymphs, Greek gods, valkyries, Egyptian gods, magic school, gnomes, and ogres. Adams further added that "storylines were less thought out," and the sisters' outfits were becoming "more and more revealing."[20] Nick Romano of Screen Crush wrote that "the storylines became wicca ridiculous and the dialogue became too cheesy," particularly in season eight.[92] Jon Langmead of *PopMatters* believed that *Charmed* "slipped markedly" in seasons seven and eight, noting that the final season lost appealing elements such as "smart casting" and "attention to relationship drama" of the show's earlier seasons.[93] Langmead also disliked the introduction of Kaley Cuoco and Marnette Patterson in the eighth season, and felt that Cuoco was "consistently painful to watch."[93] DVD Verdict's Ryan Keefer also felt that Cuoco joining the show was a "poor choice" by the producers, and commented that season eight "failed to recapture the glory days of the first few seasons."[94]

Awards and nominations [edit]

Main article: List of awards and nominations received by Charmed

Charmed has gathered several awards and nominations. The show was nominated for one TV Guide Award,[95] two International Horror Guild Awards,[96] three Teen Choice Awards,[97] three Wand Awards[97] and seven RATTY Awards, with Holly Marie Combs winning "Best Science Fiction Lead Actress" in 2003.[98] It was also nominated for three Saturn Awards, including one "Best Network Television Series" nomination for its first season and two "Best Actress on Television" nominations for Shannen Doherty in 1999 and 2000.[97] In 2001, *Charmed* won a Cable Guide Award in the United Kingdom for "Favorite Sci-Fi/Fantasy Series".[99] The series also won a "Certificate of Merit" at the 2003 EDGE Awards for the season four episode "Muse to My Ears".[100]

In 2004, Alyssa Milano was nominated for a Spacey Award in Canada for "Favorite Female TV Character" and in 2005, she was nominated for "Favorite Television Actress" at the Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards.[97][101] That same year, Rose McGowan won the award for "Favorite Sister" at the Family Television Awards.[102] *Charmed* also received recognition for its young guest actors, having been nominated for five Young Artist Awards, with Alex Black winning once for his role in the season four episode "Lost and Bound".[103]

Cultural impact [edit]

Television [edit]

Charmed was the first primetime television show about a coven of witches.[104] Following the broadcast of the season eight episode "Payback's a Witch" in January 2006, *Charmed* became the longest running hour-long series in American television history featuring all female leads.[105][106] However, this accolade was surpassed in 2012 by *Desperate Housewives*, which also lasted for eight seasons but aired two more episodes than *Charmed*.[6][107] In 2000, Cult TV placed *Charmed* at number forty-four on its list of the "Top 100 Cult TV Shows".[108] In 2007, AOL TV ranked each Charmed One on its list of the "Top TV Witches"—Piper third, Phoebe seventh, Prue ninth and Paige twelfth.[109][110][111] In 2010, HuffPost TV and AOL TV ranked *Charmed* at number ten on their joint list of "The Top 20 Magic/Supernatural Shows of All Time"[112] and in 2013, *TV Guide* placed the series on its list of "The 60 Greatest Sci-Fi Shows of All Time".[113]

In 2012, six years after its original broadcasting, *Charmed* was found by The NPD Group to be the second-most binge-watched television series on subscription video-on-demand services, such as Netflix.[56][57] After *Charmed* ended, there were never any other long-running shows about witches to rival shows about vampires and zombies.[114] In 2013, Joe Rhodes of *The New York Times* referred to *Charmed* as "the last successful witch TV series",[114] while BuzzFeed writer Jarett Wieselman wrote that "no subsequent [witch] series have been able to replicate *Charmed*'s success."[6] Many witch-themed shows since *Charmed* ended have been cancelled after one or two seasons.[115][116][117] The 2013–14 season saw a resurgence of witches in new shows *The Originals*, *Witches of East End*, *Salem*, and in the third season of *American Horror Story* titled *Coven*.[118][119] In an interview with E! Online, cast member Alyssa Milano stated that she believed the success of *Charmed* helped pave the way for these witch-themed shows, saying "I feel like networks are trying to replicate that."[118] The growing trend of witches on television that year as well as *Charmed*'s success on Netflix prompted CBS to develop a reboot of *Charmed*, which did not get picked up at the network.[118][120] However, The CW network later developed a different reboot series, which premiered in October 2018, featuring different cast members and characters.[7]

Witches of East End (2013–14) was noted by critics for its strong resemblance to *Charmed*, as both shows are about a sisterhood of witches battling evil and live in similar houses, which its executive producer Maggie Friedman has acknowledged.[107][121][122][123] Other witch-themed shows that have been compared to *Charmed* include *The Secret Circle* (2011–12)[104][124] and *Hex* (2004–05), which was described as "the U.K.'s edgier, oversexed response to *Charmed*."[125] *Eastwick* (2009) was noted for its surface similarities to *Charmed* as it also focused on a trio of female witches,[126][127] which led director David Nutter to come out and say that *Eastwick* was not a clone of *Charmed*.[128] The season four episode of *Smallville* titled "Spell" also received comparisons to *Charmed* as it focused on three of its main female characters, who get possessed by a trio of 16th Century witches.[129][130]

Popular culture [edit]

The depiction of witchcraft in *Charmed* has had a significant impact on popular culture. The book *Investigating Charmed: The Magic Power of TV* (2007) revealed that viewers of the Wiccan religion appreciated the fact that *Charmed* brought their religion into the public eye in a positive way, through the use of sacred objects, spellcasting, a *Book of Shadows*, solstice celebrations and handfastings.[18] In 2008, the religious organisation Beliefnet ranked The Charmed Ones at number eight on their list of the "Top 10 Witches in Pop Culture".[131] Beliefnet praised the cultural image of *Charmed* for its female empowerment, mythology and how the sisters "managed to solve their cases" week-on-week.[131] In 2011, *Seventeen* magazine named The Charmed Ones ninth in its list of the top fictional witches of all time,[132] while E! Online ranked Piper at number six on their list of "Pop Culture's Top 10 Most Bitchin' Witches".[133] In 2012, the *Chicago Tribune* placed The Charmed Ones at number seven on their list of "The Top Pop Culture Witches of All Time".[134] In 2014, The Charmed Ones were ranked at number six on the "Pop Culture's Favorite Witches" list by MSN's Wonderwall.[135] In 2016, Piper was also ranked at number six in *The Huffington Post*'s list of "The Top 10 Greatest Witches of All Time".[136]

Charmed has also become a pop culture reference in television shows and films. In the 2000 parody film, *Shriek If You Know What I Did Last Friday the Thirteenth*, Barbara Primesuspect (Julie Benz) is said to be yelling "*Charmed* my ass!" at Shannen Doherty, who does not appear on-screen.[137] The series is also mentioned in the episode "Ur-ine Trouble" of teen comedy-drama series *Popular*, when Josh Ford (Bryce Johnson) tells Brooke McQueen (Leslie Bibb) to go home and watch *Charmed*.[138][139] In another episode of *Popular*, titled "The Shocking Possession of Harrison John", Josh asks George Austin (Anthony Montgomery) who is Michael Bernardino's (Ron Lester) "favorite hottie witch" on *Charmed* and George says it is Prue.[140] In the episode "Faith" of *Third Watch*, Fred Yokas (Chris Bauer) mentions to his wife Faith (Molly Price) that their daughter was upset she could not watch *Charmed*.[141] In the 2002 teen comedy film *Big Fat Liar*, Kaylee (Amanda Bynes) recalls watching an episode of *Charmed* on The WB where Alyssa Milano's character Phoebe was about to put a spell on her demon boyfriend.

In a 2003 episode of the Australian soap opera *Neighbours*, Serena Bishop (Lara Sacher) and Erin Perry (Talia Zucker) find out they have a lot in common like their love for *Charmed*.[142] In a 2005 episode of *Neighbours*, Bree Timmins (Sianoa Smit-McPhee) mentions that *The O.C.* is the best show on television since *Charmed*.[143] In the episode "Plucky" of sitcom *So Notorious*, Aaron Spelling tells his daughter Tori Spelling that "there's always room for another witch on *Charmed*" after hearing of her latest cable telemovie role.[144] In another episode of *So Notorious*, titled "Cursed", Tori and Sasan (Zachary Quinto) discuss who has put a curse on her and Sasan says, "It's Shannen [Doherty]! She knows all that witchcraft from *Charmed*."[145][146] In the season four episode "Me and the Devil" of *True Blood*, Sookie Stackhouse (Anna Paquin) tells a witch named Marnie Stonebrook (Fiona Shaw) that one of her favorite television shows she watched as a child was *Charmed*.[147] In the episode "Boy Parts" of *American Horror Story: Coven*, a witch named Queenie (Gabourey Sidibe) mentions that she grew up watching *Charmed*.[148] Both the show and character Piper were referenced in the episode "Sorry for Your Loss" of *The Tomorrow People*, when Piper Nichols (Aeriél Miranda) introduces herself to Russell Kwon (Aaron Yoo), who responds by saying "*Charmed*, Piper".[149] Critics noted references of *Charmed* in the witchcraft-themed music video for British girl group Little Mix's song "Black Magic" (2015).[150][151][152][153]

In the film *Fighting with My Family* (2019), Saraya is watching the episode "Happily Ever After" and this inspires her to come up with her ring name Paige.[154]

Academia [edit]

Main article: Charmed academia

Since *Charmed* ended in 2006, academics have appropriated its content and published essays and articles regarding *Charmed*. It has been the subject of several collective books such as *Investigating Charmed: The Magic Power of TV* edited by Karin and Stan Beeler, which adopts a gender perspective to carry out an in-depth analysis of third-wave feminism as shown in the series. Between 2012 and 2015, French academic and essayist Alexis Pichard delivered a set of three lectures on *Charmed*. In 2012, he spoke about intertextuality and postmodernism in the series at the Université de Rouen.[155] In 2014, he explored *Charmed*'s transmedia storytelling at the Université Paris 3.[156] In 2015, he investigated the show's postfeminist subversion of fairy tales at the University of Lorient, a presentation which was followed two years later by the publication in French academic journal *TV/Series* of an article titled "'When you said sea hag, did you mean like old woman hag or evil magic hag?' : Imbrication du conte de fées et du (post)féminisme dans Charmed" ('The embedding of fairy tales and (post)feminism in Charmed').[157] The journal's editor summarises Pichard's work as follows: "Alexis Pichard examines gender norms as they appear on the small screen, scrutinizing the relationship between supernatural soap Charmed (The WB, 1998-2006) and the fairy tale. He describes a complex relationship where literary associations are a way of subverting traditions and expectations on the one hand – and ultimately succumbing to them on the other, with a problematic post-feminist emphasis on 'having it all'".[158]

Other media [edit]

Novels [edit]

Main article: List of Charmed novels and short stories

The *Charmed* novels are a series of books that accompany the television series. Between 1999 and 2008, forty-three novels were published by Simon & Schuster and were roughly set during the same period as the events of the television series. The first novel, *The Power of Three*, was released in November 1999 as a novelization of the series premiere episode, "Something Wicca This Way Comes".[159] All subsequent novels – apart from *Charmed Again* (2001) which narrates the events of the two-part episode of the same name[160] – are original stories revolving around the Halliwell sisters and their allies. The first ten novels involve the original Charmed Ones, Prue, Piper, and Phoebe Halliwell, while the remaining thirty-three are set after both Prue's murder and the introduction of Paige Matthews as the youngest, new Charmed One. Two books, *Seasons of the Witch* (2003) and *The Warren Witches* (2005), are anthologies of short stories.[161][162] Writers of the series include Diana G. Gallagher and Paul Ruditis who also co-authored two volumes of the official guidebook, *The Book of Three* (2004; 2006).

In 2015, HarperCollins acquired the rights to publish a second series of *Charmed* novels from CBS Consumer Products.[163] The first novel, *The War on Witches*, was published in May 2015 and its narrative is set between the events of *Seasons 9* and *10* of the comic book series.[164][*non-primary source needed*] It is written by Ruditis, who previously authored *Season 9* and edited *Season 10*, and follows the younger Charmed Ones' reunions with Prue and Cole Turner after their resurrections.

Comic books [edit]

Main article: Charmed (comics)

The *Charmed* comic books serve as a continuation of the television series and were originally published by Zenescope Entertainment.[165] The first comic book series, *Charmed: Season 9*, was released in June 2010 and is set eighteen months after the events of the televised show's final episode, "Forever Charmed".[166] Author Paul Ruditis was the lead writer of the first series and Raven Gregory helped him co-write the first three issues.[165] The second and final comic book series by Zenescope, *Charmed: Season 10*, debuted at the New York Comic Con during the weekend of October 9, 2014.[167] Pat Shand was the lead writer of the second series while Ruditis assumed the role of editor.[167] In 2017, Dynamite Entertainment acquired the rights to publish a new comic book series titled *Charmed: A Thousand Deaths*. It was written by Erica Schultz and illustrated by Maria Sanapo.[168]

Soundtracks [edit]

Four soundtrack albums of *Charmed* have been released and feature music that were used in the show.[169] The first soundtrack album, *Charmed: The Soundtrack*, was released in September 2003.[169] The second soundtrack, *Charmed: The Book of Shadows*, was released in January 2005[170] and the third, *Charmed: The Final Chapter*, was released in May 2006.[171] A retrospect of songs compiled from all eight seasons of the show, *Charmed: The Final Chapter* was positively received by Heather Phares of AllMusic, who praised it for "feel[ing] like a late '90s/early 2000s time capsule".[172] The fourth soundtrack, *Charmed: Score from the Television Series*, was released as a limited edition in June 2013 and featured a selection of cues from the show by composer J. Peter Robinson.[173] This is now out of print.

Merchandise [edit]

Main article: Charmed merchandise

Several official board games of *Charmed* have been published by Clash of Arms and Tilsit. The show's first board game, *Charmed: The Book of Shadows*, was released in 2001 and the second board game, *Charmed: The Source*, was released in 2003.[174][175] Other board games include *Charmed: The Power of Three* and *Charmed: The Prophecy*, both of which were released in 2005.[176][177] An action, platform video game of *Charmed* was developed by DC Studios and published by In-Fusio.[178] The game was released for mobile phones in Europe in 2003[178] and North America in 2004.[179] Titan Magazines began publishing the *Charmed Magazine* in 2004, which was issued bi-monthly and featured interviews with the cast and crew, the latest news and developments, and behind-the-scenes information on the show.[180][181] The 24th and final issue of *Charmed Magazine* was released in 2008.[182]

All eight seasons of *Charmed* were released individually on DVD in Regions 1, 2 and 4 between February 2005 and September 2007.[183][184] A new packaging of the Region 4 DVDs for all seasons were released in April 2011.[185] A limited *Book of Shadows* box set edition was released in Region 4 on November 16, 2006, and featured seasons 1–7.[186] A limited *Magic Chest* box set edition was released in Region 2 on March 5, 2007, and included all eight seasons.[187] An ultimate box set was released in Region 2 on October 27, 2008,[188] and Region 4 on November 6, 2008.[189] The set includes all seasons, with a cover that features all four Halliwell sisters together.[188] Two complete series box sets were released in Region 1 on November 18, 2008.[190] Both sets are styled after the show's *Book of Shadows*, with one set being a regular release and the other being a limited deluxe edition.[190][191] The complete series box set was re-released in the United States on November 11, 2014, and features a brand new cover of all four sisters.[192]

In June 2018, CBS Studios (who own the rights to *Charmed*) announced that the whole series was in the process of being remastered to high-definition with a completion date of September 2019.[193] The remastered version of season one was released on high-definition Blu-ray in the US on October 30, 2018.[194] Season 2 was released through Manufacture on Demand in 2020. Season 3 is scheduled for release May 18, 2021, almost 20 years to the day that Season 3 finished airing on The WB.

On December 13, 2019, Koch Films announced a full series release on Blu-ray for Charmed in Germany, making Germany the first country worldwide to receive a full Blu-ray set rather than individual seasons like in the United States. The Blu-ray box set edition was released on June 24, 2021.[195]

Podcast [edit]

On September 1, 2022, three members of the Charmed cast started a podcast called *The House of Halliwell / A Charmed Rewatch Podcast*. At Dragon Con, Drew Fuller explains that he had not watched Charmed and recruited his fellow co-stars to create a rewatch podcast.[196] Holly Marie Combs recalls a cancer scare during "The Power of Two" episode. She revealed that a tumor was discover in her uterus while filming an episode of Charmed with the same name. As a result, production of the show was shut down for two weeks.[197][198] Brian Krause discussed how Charmed impacted its viewers by bringing them together with family and assisting individuals in accepting themselves. He also reveals in the podcast that this is his first time watching the show.[199]

Reboot series [edit]

Canceled CBS reboot [edit]

On October 25, 2013, it was announced that CBS was developing a reboot of *Charmed*.[200] *Party of Five* co-creator Christopher Keyser and Sydney Sidner were going to executive produce and write the pilot script for CBS Television Studios (who own the rights to *Charmed*) and The Tannenbaum Company.[200][201] The reboot was described as a "re-imagining of the original series centered around four sisters who discover their destiny – to battle against the forces of evil using their witchcraft."[202] CBS only ordered a script for a pilot, however; no commitment to filming was made.[56]

Following the announcement, the original cast of *Charmed* shared their opinions of the reboot through Twitter. Rose McGowan tweeted, "They really are running out of ideas in Hollywood," followed up by another tweet, "lame lame lame lamertons."[56] Alyssa Milano tweeted, "The thing about them doing a #charmed reboot is ... it just ... it feels like yesterday. It feels too close."[203] Holly Marie Combs tweeted, "Here's the thing. Everything is a reboot. If you think otherwise you haven't read enough Shakespeare yet. At least they had the decency to call it what it is. Instead of ripping it off and then pretending to not be ripping it off."[204] Shannen Doherty tweeted to a fan, "I don't know yet. It's strange to think about a reboot. I guess I'm still processing the idea."[204] However, on August 12, 2014, TVLine's Michael Ausiello revealed that CBS was not moving forward with the reboot.[205]

The CW reboot [edit]

Main article: Charmed (2018 TV series)

On January 25, 2018, The CW network officially ordered a pilot of a new *Charmed* reboot, developed by Jennie Snyder Urman, Jessica O'Toole and Amy Rardin, for the 2018–19 television season.[206] The reboot was described by The CW as "a fierce, funny, feminist reboot" of the original series.[206] It follows the lives of three sisters—Macy, Mel and Maggie—who, after the death of their mother, discover they are The Charmed Ones, the most powerful trio of good witches, who are destined to protect innocent lives from demons and other dark forces.[206][207] The eldest sister Macy is a "practical, driven, and brilliant geneticist" with the power of telekinesis.[208][207] The middle sister Mel is "a passionate, outspoken activist" and lesbian with the power of time-freezing,[209] while the youngest Maggie is "a bubbly college freshman" with the power to hear people's thoughts.[208][210] Madeleine Mantock was cast as Macy,[211] Melonie Diaz was cast as Mel,[209] Sarah Jeffery was cast as Maggie,[210][212] and Rupert Evans was cast as the trio's whitelighter Harry.[213] The reboot premiered on The CW on October 14, 2018, 20 years after the original series' premiere.[7] The CW renewed the series for a second season, which premiered on October 11, 2019.[214] The reboot would ultimately run for four seasons and 72 episodes before being canceled in May 2022.[215]

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External links [edit]

- *Charmed* at IMDb
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Charmed
at Wikipedia's sister projects

Definitions from Wiktionary
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